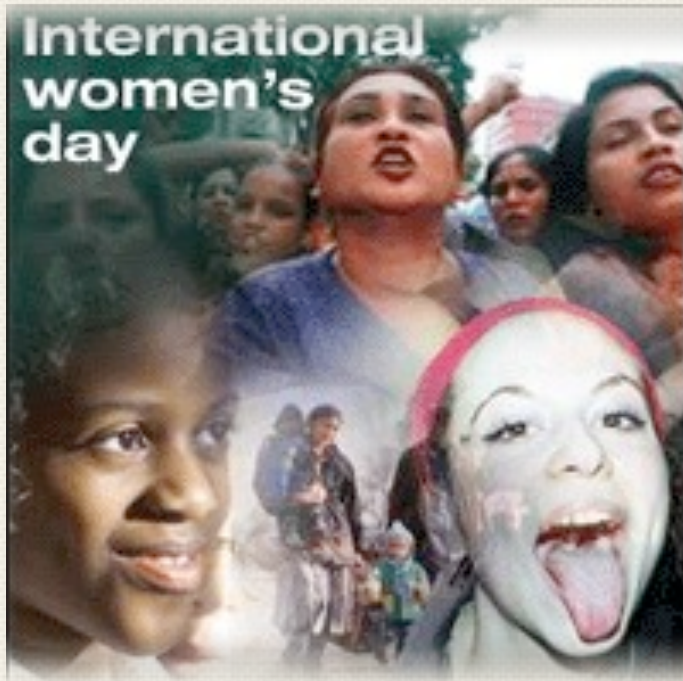




INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



MARCH 8TH IS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY. IT WAS OFFICIALLY RECOGNISED BY THE UN IN 1975, AND EVER SINCE HAS BEEN SPONSORED BY THEM

Each year on March 8th throughout the world, hundreds of IWD events take place. They range from small informal gatherings to large-scale highly organised events.

All celebrate women's advancement and stress the need for continued action to make sure women's equality is gained and maintained.

This year, a coalition of campaign groups including Oxfam, Amnesty International and White Ribbon Alliance are using International Women's Day to call for more action to reduce deaths among pregnant women in developing nations. Expectant mothers there face the same risk of death as UK women did 100 years ago.

In Hyderabad, on March 7th and March 8th women doctors are walking to celebrate their achievements and contributions to society.

Women volunteers in Hyderabad are planting trees, recycling paper and plastics and making handicrafts with recycled materials.



MANITOBA CHIEFS IN CANADA



WORLD-WIDE ACTIVITIES



WOMEN IN BANGLADESH



INSPIRATIONAL INDIAN WOMEN



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ANNIE BESANT WAS A BRITISH SOCIAL REFORMER, CAMPAIGNER FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND A SUPPORTER OF INDIAN NATIONALISM



INDIRA GANDHI WAS THE FIRST WOMAN PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA FROM 1980 TO 1984

The women on this page are just a few of the inspirational Indian women who have had an influence all over the world.

Mother Teresa was not born in India, but became an Indian citizen in 1962. She taught in Kolkata before becoming a nun and later founded the Missionaries of Charity which worked amongst the poor and destitute.

Kalpna Chawla was an India-American scientist who became a NASA astronaut, but was killed in the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster in 2003.

Arundhati Roy is an internationally acclaimed award-winning author and wrote, 'The God of Small Things'.



MOTHER TERESA



KALPANA CHAWLA



ARUNDHATI ROY